includes every locality in the world, every system of management, every kind of bees, comb and extracted honey; and you want to know the one "best size of hive" for all these localities and conditions. "I don't know," guess yourself. For several years I have been trying to find out the best size of hive for extracted honey in the Sespe Apiary, with a very strong desire to prevent swarming, or any further increase of stock. My experiments lead me to believe that Dadant's hive and system would be the best for this purpose. but my apiary contains over eleven thousand Langstroth combs, and to change these to the two sizes in the Dadant hive is out of the question. Large combs and plenty of them in the brood-chamber, with prolific queens to match, give the largest number of bees per colony, and with plenty of super room the larger the colony the more honey we get per hive; and, yes, I must say it if it paralyzes friend Hutchinson, it would be much more profitable to get all the honey from a location with 200 large colonies, than it would be to get it all with the same number of bees in 300 smaller colonies. The 300 smaller hives would require more labor per hive to care for them than the 200 large hives. They require more care to prevent starving, more labor and annoyance to hive swarms, the first cost of the hives would be greater, and the expense of feeding them through a dry year in California would be greater.

Four years ago I deepened a few ten-frame Langstroth brood-chambers, making the frames twelve inches deep, and used a regular Langstroth super above to extract from, with a queen excluder between. These hives produce fine large colonies and I would be satisfied with them if they would not swarm, but they do swarm with me nearly as badly as the regular ten-frame hive, and when this happens they are not so desirable because the brood chambers are too large for a divided colony, or to hive a swarm in without contracting with the division-boards.

My apiary also contains 60 regular 12 frame Langstroth hives which are open to the same objection; they are too small to prevent swarming, and too large to hive swarms in, and altogether do not average as much surplus honey per hive as the ten comb hives. Dadant prevents swarming by tiering up those shallow extracting supers, and always putting the empty combs next to the brood-chamber without a queen excluder between, and, if swarming is prevented his brood-chamber is all-right for size.

I have been through the shallow frame fad for comb honey, and am satisfied that any frame smaller than an eight-comb Langstroth is unprofitable in this locality, and for extracted honey I am satisfied that any hive smaller than a ten-frame Langstroth is unprofitable.

The upper limits of size are not so well defined, as they depend entirely on the prolificness of our queens, the length of time our bees have to breed up in the spring before the honey flow commences, and our success in preventing swarms One of my neighbours, Mr. Keene, keeps his bees in eight-comb Langstroth hives four stories high, without any queen-excluders or any one to watch for swarms, and his average yield per colony is just about the same as his neighbors who put in their time during the swarming season watching for swarms and hiving them. If next season is a good one I want to try a large number of ten and twelve comb Langstroth hives three stories high. Will start with single-brood chambers in the spring, and when these are nearly full of brood will raise them up and put another brood-chamber full of empty brood combs under them and a super full of empty store combs above them; and if they do not swarm and their average of surplus honey is as high as the balance of the apiary will put another brood chamber under every hive.

J. F. McINTYRE.

Sespe, California.

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### Organization Among Bee Keepers.

Mr. President and Members of the U. S. B. K. U.:

Your humble servant can in no wise add to the many excellent articles that have appeared on this subject from time to time; no one realizes that more than himself, but the subject is an important one.

The bee-keepers of the United States should aim to have the best organization in the country, and unless I am very much mistaken, there is no good reason why they should not succeed. You may say, "easier said than done;" to be sure, but "nothing without labor." The first questions then are: How shall we proceed? How can we get the bee-keepers interested? We cannot hope to succeed unless we first get them interested. I would not advise any new or untried plan. Neither would I advise any plan that has been tried in the past and failed. We can look around us and see many successful organizations; let us profit by their experience and adopt a system of organization that has proven successful.

We should look around us, take the most successful organization we can find for a